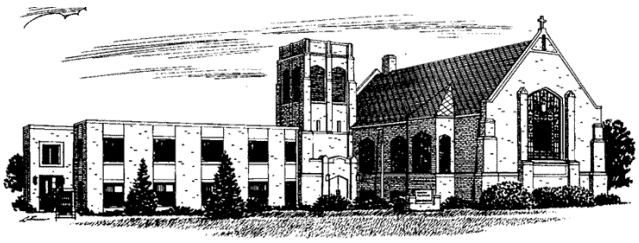


SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Bell Choir Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Nanci Fenrick, Financial Secretary
Emily Gaul, Child Care

Sundays at Saron:
During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

August 2018

Taking the time to intentionally and prayerfully discern next steps is often both a good and necessary process to move into the future. Saron's church council is asking the congregation for their help in this through a process of visioning and subsequent Capital Appeal. It will be a time of prayerful dreaming together – where might God be calling us into the future? What ministries? What updates, repairs, or changes to our physical building will help us live into the vision of "joyfully sharing God's love for all!!!"?

The first step is the congregation saying "yes" to the process of hiring a consulting firm, in this case "The Enrichment Group" to do just that. Saron's experience with a capital appeal firm in the past was very positive and we trust this will be the same.

A special congregational meeting will be held on **Sunday, August 5, 2018, at the conclusion of worship, approximately 10:30 a.m.**. At this time we will vote on a motion, as recommended by the congregational council, to enter into a contract with The Enrichment Group, Stewardship and Fund Development Consultants, of University Place, WA. All voting members are encouraged to attend. While an exact Capital Appeal goal will not be finalized until the conclusion of the visioning process, it will likely include the costs of a new roof for our educational/office wing, maintenance issues, mortgage reduction and other items to accompany our mission. The cost of the contract is $14,000.

Please join us on August 5 for this important decision. Questions? Council members will help to find an answer.

Pastor Joan

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: ***Arla Huelsberg*** *is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph;* ***Lila Roethel*** *is at the Willows;* ***Bernice Koski*** *is at Woodland Terrace;* ***Virginia Anserello*** *is at Pine Ridge, Stevensville; and* ***Jean Pearson*** *is at Caretel, St. Joseph, MI*

Serving in the military:

Andy Wedde – California

Office Hours at Saron

Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9:30 AM - 11 AM+
Nanci (financial secretary): Weds afternoon
Call for other times/changes
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.
Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in August 2018

Aug. 1 – Bradley Gorman
2 - Joseph Ulrey
3 - Tim Standen
4 – Linda Huff
5 - Brian Hohman
Emma Dipert
7 - Ed Standen
9 - Benjamin Baumgartner
Mary Smart
14 - Maggie Hammer
15 – David Bailey
16 - Tedd Gorman
20 – Diana Dubman
22 - Irma Gorman
23 – Andrew Huff
24 –Rebecca (Fortenbacher) Sherry
Paula Risetter
27 - Pamela Olson
Elizabeth Schmuhl

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members In August 2018

Aug. 1 – Matthew and Laurel Gacek
3 - David and Dana Riley
6 - Jerry and Ruth Stelling
7 – Brad and Marilyn Frey
Victor and Nicole Coar
8 - Erik and Brittany (Ondraka) Hansen
14 - Donald and Eloise Moely
15 – John and T. J. Koehler
20 – David and Shelly Stankiewicz
24 – Jack and Cheryl Houser

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

If there is anyone who has been omitted, or, if the dates are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you.

WITH SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the family of Richard Bell upon his death in Florida on May 29. Dick's memorial service will be at Saron on Tuesday, August 14, at 3 pm. Our prayers are with Rosie and the rest of Dick's family at this time.

God is our refuge and strength. Psalm 46:1a

CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our congratulations and best wishes to Mark Wedde and Chelsea Boswell upon their marriage on June 22 at Saron.

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sun. Aug. 5 —
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
Psalm 78:23-29
Ephesians 4:1-16
John 6:24-35

Sun. Aug. 12 —
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
1 Kings 19:4-8
Psalm 34:1-8
Ephesians 4:25—5:2
John 6:35, 41-51

Sun. Aug. 19 —
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

Sun. Aug. 26 —
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

Nursery News

We are always looking for more volunteers. In September we go back to two services, so you can sign up for early or late worship. Some people sign up for the service time they attend. Some choose to attend one service and volunteer at the other. Some are gone a few months but serve when they can. You can sign up on the sheet in the narthex or let Marilyn Lucy know you are interested.

PRAYER GROUP

Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which includes lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

EPHESUS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Watch for details in the bulletin.

Learning

book of faith
Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year's theme is **"True North: Jesus Is Our Treasure"** comes to **S**aron August 6,7,8, & 9.
It will take place from 6:30-8:30 PM; ages Kdg – 6th grade, completed. Invite a friend! For more information contact Kristen Harper or Amanda Bradley

Tuesday Mornings at the Beach

Begin your day with prayer and Bible study at the beach this summer! Bring your travel cup of coffee or tea, a jacket, and your Bible for a gathering on Tuesday mornings at 8:30, all summer. We meet at Lions Park Beach in Saint Joseph. Plan to get your free parking pass (as a St Joseph resident) at City Hall, take a brief walk after parking down Lions Park Drive, arrange to car pool from the church, or pay the $7 daily parking fee. A season pass for $40 is also available. Questions? Contact Pastor Oleson.

Women of the ELCA

Deborah Circle - Will not meet in August

The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, in the church lounge. Janet Larson will be the hostess and Linda Pater will be the study leader.

SUMMER BEACH WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Once again, Saron members and friends can take advantage of the beauty of Lake Michigan as a setting for informal summer worship. August 15, we will gather at Lion's Park Beach for a picnic supper at 6:00 p.m., followed by worship at 7:00 p.m. The church will provide hot dogs, brats, condiments, chips, and lemonade. Others are invited to bring a dish to share. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study
Saron's Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study meets at 6:00pm at the church. At 7:00pm we adjourn for a time of fellowship (something to eat and something to drink). We know everyone is busy so Bible study is a "come as you can" group. All men are invited to join in. During July, we are continuing our study of Exodus.

For more information contact Sid Mohn at 312-209-1301 or sidmohn@gmail.com
"As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17).

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast
There will be NO Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast during the summer months, we will resume again in October.

1ST SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
We are taking a break for the summer. Here are the books we have chosen for our next session, beginning in October, in case you want to get a head start on some good summer reading.

October 7, 2018 "Little Fires Everywhere" by Celeste Ng
February 10, 2019 "40 Autumns" by Nina Willner
November 4, 2018 "Magpie Murders" by Anthony Horwitz
March 3, 2019 "Then She Found Me" by Elinor Lipman
December 2, 2018 "Sister Carrie" by Theodore Dreiser
April 7, 2018 " Young Jane Young" by Gabrielle Zevin
May 5, 2019 "Abide With Me" by Elizabeth Strout

"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road. They are the destination, and the journey. They are home." (Anna Quindlen)

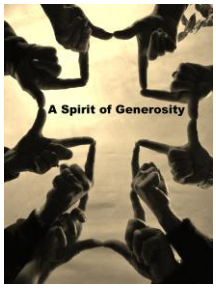
Support

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving
Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks.

STOCK DONATIONS
Saron partners with TD Ameritrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick to receive the account number for which the shares will be transferred to. Once the transaction has been completed, e-mail Matt Bradley and Nanci Fenrick the name of the stock, the number of shares, and the date of the transfer. This allows the transaction to be completed and ensures it is included on your giving statement.
Thanks! Matt Bradley, treasurer

Are you a Thrivent member?
If so, you have an opportunity to help with the funding of a work project, as coordinated through our Outreach or Facilities teams. Please let Janet Oleson or Pastor know if you are a member, have interest or questions.

STEWARDS OF GOD'S LOVE



....with glad and generous hearts, praising God .... Acts 2:46c

May the God of all healing enfold us in love,
Fill us with peace,
And lead us to wholeness and strength. ELW 220

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments
Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

Outreach

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen-

Thank you and God's Blessings to each of you for supporting this mission to feed the hungry in our area. June's volunteer servers were Kathie and Dave Bradley, Coanne Hohman, Carter Hohman, Jan and Tom Taylor, Mary Kynast, Kathy Cowall, and Ruth Ball. Please contact the church office if you'd like to help work at the SK or bake cookies. Thank YOU!

LARGE or SMALL cans of fruit, for use at the Soup Kitchen, are always needed.
Thank you very much, Jan Stevens

MICHIGAN BLOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who helped with our blood drive on July 9th. Whether you gave blood, brought snacks, provided hospitality, or set up the dining room, it was much appreciated. It takes a group effort to host these drives and we are so grateful you made time in your schedule for it. We find many references in the Bible of the importance of helping our neighbors and this is one way to do that. It can be a LIFE-SAVING act of neighborly love, which is pretty great! Our next drive is October 15th, which is 98 days from July 9th; this allows enough time for the 56 day waiting period but no other blood donations.

MEET ME AT THE FREEZER

We will need a volunteer to be in charge of organizing "Meet Me at the Freezer" project. If you have interest, contact Jan Stevens or Amy Nelson.
Thanks for all your help,
Jan Stevens

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Hopefully you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer! Before we know it school will be starting! If you have looked in the local stores, school supplies are all ready on sale. This year Saron will be collecting school supplies for Lybrook Elementary School in Eau Claire. Supplies may be donated through September 10. A basket is in the narthex. Listed below are much needed items:

Dry erase markers, crayons, pencils, glue sticks, spiral notebooks, hand sanitizer, Kleenex(tissue), erasers, paper towel, disinfecting wipes, colored pencils, post it notes, stickers. Let's help these students start off the school year with the supplies they need. Thank you, Outreach
"Joyfully Sharing God's Love For All." Yes, that is what Saron does every day.

FACEBOOK & WORSHIP VIDEO

We love to share pictures of Saron's ministry on our Facebook page and we get great feedback. It is our practice not to put names with the pictures. Portions of our worship are being recorded for the purpose of sharing with those who are not able to attend worship, particularly those who are home bound. If you have questions, or prefer your picture not to appear on a video, please contact Aaron Becker (at the camera) or Pastor.

Facilities

Lawn Mowers Needed – There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers to mow the yards instead of hiring that work out saved the church an estimated $1,100.00 in expenses last year. Please sign-up to help the church save money and keep our grounds looking good. The church has its own lawn mower. Even some high school members could mow with direction from parents. If you have any questions please see or notify Bill Oleson.

USED INK CARTRIGES NEEDED –

Please save your used ink cartridges as it saves the church money in office supplies, is a good fellowship opportunity as well as helping to maintain God's house. There is a collection box in the Narthex. Please consider helping and if you have any questions talk to Bill Oleson or Pastor Joan.

SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

August 2018

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

Thanks to Marilyn who helps keep our nursery toys clean and disinfected!

Thanks to Tedd who helps keep Saron's "Rose of Sharon" looking so beautiful!

Saron's Council Members – 2018
Karen Hinckley (326-0688) – President
Judi Huff (473-5075) – Vice President
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Treasurer
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Secretary
+++
Tyler Cook (429-5550) – Worship
Brad Frey (921-8618) – Facilities
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Youth
Nolan Becker (269-558-3252) – Youth
Don Hafer (269-470-2255) - Support
Karen Johnson (269-983-2800) – Hospitality
Judy Huff (473-5075) - Hospitality
Kristen Harper (277-9277) – Learning
Amy Nelson (920-227-5354) – Outreach
Joan Oleson (983-1273) office; 983-2475 home) – Pastor

Saron
August Volunteer Schedule

	Aug. 5 *Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*	***Aug. 12*** *Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost*	***Aug. 19*** *Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*	***Aug. 26*** *Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost*
	9:30	***9:30***	**9:30**	***9:30***
Assisting minister	Sue Rood	Marilyn Frey	Pauline Ngonyani	Wendy King
Reader/ Intinction	Matt Bradley	Susan Harris	Wendy Subrin	Dan Fortenbacher
Ushers	Scott and Lindsay Gaspari	Dave and Kathie Bradley	Elizabeth Kunkel and Fran Richards	Bob and Mary Kynast
Acolytes	Brooke or Jenna Henderson	Grant Gacek	Mia Bradley	Brandon Burrow
Nursery Assistant	Judi Huff	Lindsay Gaspari	Allison Rood	Mary Alice Brunner
Bldg. close	Bob Hopkins	Dave and Kathie Bradley	Dennis and Colleen Lundgren	Bob and Mary Kynast
Snacks				
Flowers	Matt and Laurel Gacek		Sue Rood for Allison's B'd	
Mowing	Weekend of Aug. 6 Bray Frey	Weekend of Aug. 13	Weekend of Aug. 20 Burrow	Weekend of Aug. 27

Council News

Attendance Record	
06/24/2018	*62*
07/01/2018 *07/08/2718*	*64* *101*
07/15/2018 *07/22/2018*	*84* *79*

August 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday with Communion by intinction			**1** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**2**	**3**	4
5 9:30 a.m .Worship	**6** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 6:30 p.m Vacation Bible School starts	**7** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study 6:30 p.m. VBS	**8** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 6:30 p.m Vacation Bible School	**9** 6:30 p.m Vacation Bible School last night	**10** Building an Inclusive Church Seminar	11 Building an Inclusive Church Seminar
12 9:30 a.m. Worship	**13** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group Newsletter Articles due	**14** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study 7:00 Support Comm	**15** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 6:00 p.m. Summer Beach picnic supper 7:00 p.m. Worship	**16**	**17**	18
19 9:30 a.m. Worship	**20** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	**21** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 4:00 p.m. Vasa 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**22** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**23**	**24**	25
26 9:30 a.m. Worship	**27** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**28** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**29** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**30** 9:30 a.m. Soup Kitchen	**31** Wedding Rehearsal	